

## SECTION III: BRUSH MANAGEMENT

### 3-1 BRUSH MANAGEMENT – DESCRIPTION

Fire safety in the landscape is achieved by reducing the readily flammable fuel adjacent to structures. This can be accomplished by pruning and thinning of native and naturalized vegetation, revegetation with low fuel volume plantings or a combination of the two.

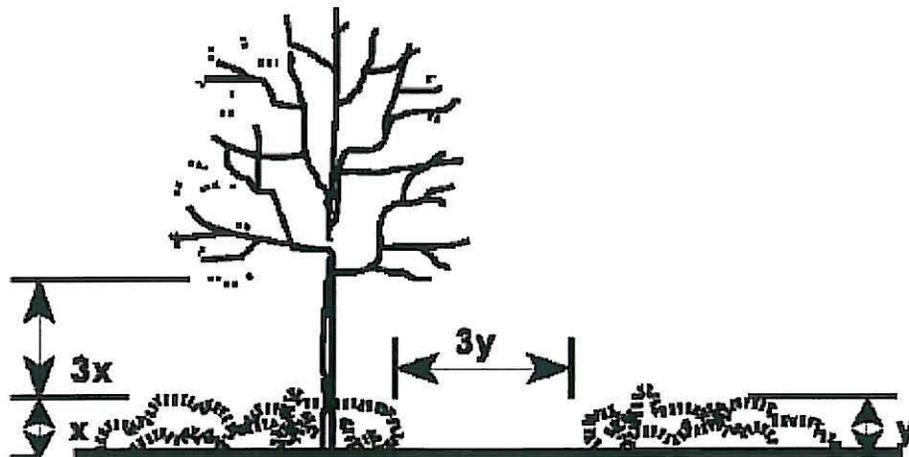
Implementing brush management in an environmentally appropriate manner requires a reduction in the amount and continuity of highly flammable fuel while maintaining plant coverage for soil protection. Such a transition will minimize the visual, biological and erosion impacts while reducing the risks of wildland fires.

### 3-2 BRUSH MANAGEMENT- REQUIREMENTS

#### 3.2-1 Basic requirements – All Zones

- 3.2-1.01 For zone two, plants shall not be cut below six inches.
- 3.2-1.02 Debris and trimmings produced by thinning and pruning shall be removed from the site or if left, shall be converted into mulch by a chipping machine and evenly dispersed, non-irrigated, to a maximum depth of 6 inches.
- 3.2-1.03 Trees and large tree form shrubs (e.g., Oaks, Sumac, Toyon) which are being retained shall be pruned to provide clearance of three times the height of the under story plant material or six feet whichever is higher (**Figure 3-1**). Dead and excessively twiggy growth shall also be removed.

**FIGURE 3-1  
PRUNING TREES TO PROVIDE CLEARANCE FOR BRUSH MANAGEMENT**



3.2-1.04 All plants or plant groupings except cacti, succulents, trees and tree-form shrubs shall be separated by a distance three times the height of the tallest adjacent plants (**Figure 3-1**).

3.2-1.05 Maximum coverage and area limitations as stated herein shall not apply to indigenous native tree species (i.e., Pinus, Quercus, Platanus, Salix and Populus).

### 3.2-2 Zone 1 Requirements - All Structures

3.2-2.01 Do not use, and remove if necessary, highly flammable plant materials (see **Appendix "B"**).

3.2-2.02 Trees should not be located any closer to a structure than a distance equal to the tree's mature spread.

3.2-2.03 Maintain all plantings in a succulent condition.

3.2-2.04 Non-irrigated plant groupings over six inches in height may be retained provided they do not exceed 100 square feet in area and their combined coverage does not exceed 10 percent of the total Zone 1 area.

### 3.2-3 Zone 2 Requirements – All Structures

3.2-3.01 Individual non-irrigated plant groupings over 24 inches in height may be retained provided they do not exceed 400 square feet in area and their combined coverage does not exceed 30 percent of the total Zone 2 area.